

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 TORONT 00045 070018Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02
IO-13 /073 W
-----070022Z 097587 /70

R 061913Z JAN 77
FM AMCONSUL TORONTO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4767
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TORONTO 0045

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SOPN, CA
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION TO US TELEVISION PROGRAM ON TORONTO

1. INITIAL MEDIA REACTION TO THE JANUARY 1 LATE EVENING NBC
TELEVISION NEWS MAGAZINE SEGMENT ON TORONTO AND ITS RACIAL PROBLEMS
WAS A TYPICAL CANADAIN RESPONSE TO ANY ARITICISM FROM THE
UNITED STATES -- MORE OR LESS, IT COULD NOT BE TRUE, BUT
ANYWAYSTHE SAME SITUATION IS MUCH WORSE IN THE UNITED STATES.
THE FEDERAL IMMIGRATION MINISTER AND TORONTO MAYOR CROMBIE,
WHO WERE BOTH QUOTED EXTENSIVELY IN THE FIRST NEWS COVERAGE,
CLAIMED THAT NBC PROGRAM NOT FACTUAL, DISTORTED, ETC., ETC.

2. AS COMMENTS WERE BUILDING TOWARDS CONDEMNATION OF US NEWS
FEATURE PROGRAM, WITH SOME STILL TONGUE-IN-CHEEK OBSERVATIONS THAT
PROGRAM WAS PERHAPS RETALIATION FOR CANADAIN ATTITUDE ON USE OF
AMERICAN PROGRAMS BY CANADAIN CABLE SYSTEMS, REPORTS OF RACIAL
OCCURENCE IN TORONTO DECEMBER 31 DEFUSED ANTI-AMERICAN THRUST OF
MEDIA REACTION. INVESTIGATOR IN OFFICE OF ONTARIO OMBUDSMAN TRIED
TO ASSIST TWO ASIANS BEING MOLESTED BY YOUTHS IN SUBWAY TRAIN
AND WAS INJURED WHILE 30 OTHER PASSENGERS AND CONDUCTOR ALLEGEDLY
RENDERED NO ASSISTANCE. COINCIDENCE OF PROGRAM AND THIS EVENT
HAVE LED TO MANY COMMENTATORS CONCLUDING THAT US PROGRAM MAY
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 TORONT 00045 070018Z

HAVE BEEN EXCESSIVE IN PRESENTATION BUT THAT BASICS WERE THE
SAME AS THOSE REPORTED BY SEVERAL CANADAIN INVESTIGATIVE BODIES.

3. COMMENT: WHILE IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT CANADAIN EGO WILL EVER
ACCEPT ANY CRITICISM FROM US SOURCES ON MORAL ISSUES, SEEING THAT
MORAL SUPERIORITY IS THE PSYCHOLOGICAL SECURITY BLANKET FOR
CANADIANS IN THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE US, THE TIMING OF THE

TWO EVENTS WAS SUCH THAT THE PASSION OF THE INITIAL CANADAIN
PRESS RESPONSE TO THE NBC PROGRAM COULD NOT BE MAINTAINED AND
THAT THE PROGRAM ITSELF IS BEING OVERSHADOWED IN IMPORTANCE --
AND JUSTIFIABLY SO -- BY THE INCIDENT ON THE SUBWAY. IN VIEWING
THE ABILITY OF TORONTO TO MAINTAIN THE MIX OF CANADIANISM AND
VARIED NATIONAL HERITAGES EMBODIED IN THE CANADAIN MOSAIC GOAL,
THE MOST WORRISOME ASPECT WOULD APPEAR TO BE THAT THE RECENT SUB-
WAY INCIDENT AND OTHERS DURING THE PAST FEW YEARS SEEM TO BE
THE RESULT OF IMPULSIVE ACTIONS BY OLD CANADIAN-STOCK YOUTHS
AGAINST PRIMARILY PAKISTANI AND INDIAN NEW IMMIGRANTS. THERE HAS
BEEN NO SUGGESTION OF THE INVOLVEMENT OF GROUPS SUCH AS THE
ULTRA-RIGHT WESTERN GUARD AND ONE CAN CONCLUDE THAT, BECAUSE
OF THE YOUTH OF THE ATTACKERS, THE INCIDENTS REFLECT A RELUCTANCE
BY A NUMBER OF OLDER CANADIAN FAMILIES TO ACCEPT BOTH IMMIGRATION
AND THE MOSAIC PHILOSOPHY.
DIGGINS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, DISCRIMINATION, TELEVISION BROADCASTING, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), MINORITIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977TORONT00045
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770006-0520
Format: TEL
From: TORONTO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770173/aaaacmja.tel
Line Count: 78
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 2763b8dc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3648947
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEDIA REACTION TO US TELEVISION PROGRAM ON TORONTO
TAGS: SOPN, CA, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2763b8dc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009